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Copy 6 of 6.

20 April 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR : Project Director of Material
SUBJECT : Excess U-2 Handling Equipment
REFERENCE : [] 7 April 1956

25X1

1. In the reference cable we requested Watertown to give us information on excess U-2 handling equipment as well as their feeling on the number of items of such equipment required per airplane for Watertown and for the detachments overseas.

25X1

2. During my visit to Watertown the week of 9 April I discussed this subject with [] felt that the complete airplane dolly and aft fuselage dolly might be needed in the numbers of one per airplane for a while at least by Detachment A overseas. Furthermore, Detachment B might require the same arrangement. Accordingly he recommended that we do not release any equipment to the Air Force until we fully determine our overseas equipment needs. I am inclined to agree with [] and accordingly suggest that we withhold any action regarding transfer of these two items to the Air Force. I do believe that we have an excess quantity of wing storage cradles and [] agreed that this may be the case. I suggest that you send a message to Watertown informing them that they need not delve further into any excess aircraft or aft fuselage dolly problems but that they should determine the number of wing handling cradles and inform us of their thinking on the number of such items needed for Watertown and the Detachments. Any excess of wing cradles can then be offered to the Air Force if we can arrive at an equitable transfer.

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25X1

J. A. GIBBS
Deputy Project Director

Cy 1 - Dir.Mat.
2 - RMB
3 - Dir.Ops.
4 - JAG
5 - Read.
6 - Chron.

JAG/hh

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